Imprisonment of Mr. Mathai Manjuran.

224. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—Will the Government kindly state the reasons why Mr. Mathai Manjuran, B. A., the political under-trial-prisoner, has been stripped off his shirt?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Mr.Mathai Manjuran has not been stripped off his shirt.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—On the first few days immediately after his arrest was he allowed to wear a shirt?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—That enquiry should have been made; because the question is why Mr. Mathai Manjuran B. A., the political under-trial-prisoner, has been stripped off hir shirt.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—The answer is there that he has not been stripped off his shirt.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—My question, Sir, is whether he was allowed to wear his shirt on the first few days.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I want notice.

225. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—Will the Government kindly state what they have done in furtherance of their statement, "if you object the matter will be looked into"? (Vide page 366 of the Council Proceedings, dated 26th January 1934).

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—No further action was taken in the matter, as no necessity was made out for the same.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Are not answers to question Nos. 224 and 225 contradictory?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I do not think so.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—The point raised in this question is "Will the Government kindly state what they have done in furtherance of their statement, 'if you object the matter will be looked into'". The question at the time was why under-trial prisoners are forced to put off their shirts. The Hon'ble Member's answer was that if the non-officials object he would look into the matter. Now in the previous answer he has admitted that he has not been stripped off his shirt. If he was allowed to wear his shirt it shows there is nothing in the Regulation to be violated if he was allowed to wear a shirt. Are not these answers contradictory?

President.—It is a matter of opinion. The Hon. Member may think it is but the Police Member does not think so.

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